

January 1, 2012

# **Report to the Legislature**

**Transition plan for the Council for Children & Families  
to the Department of Early Learning**

**HB 1965**



Washington State Department of  
**Early Learning**

This report is available online at [www.del.wa.gov](http://www.del.wa.gov)

For more information:

Kelli Bohanon, DEL Assistant Director, Partnerships and Collaboration

[kelli.bohanon@del.wa.gov](mailto:kelli.bohanon@del.wa.gov)

Chris Jamieson, CCF Acting Executive Director

[chris@ccf.wa.gov](mailto:chris@ccf.wa.gov)

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## Executive summary

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On July 1, 2012, the Council for Children and Families (CCF) will make the official transition into the Department of Early Learning (DEL) as part of Governor Chris Gregoire's commitment to streamlining state services.

In recent months, the public, key stakeholders, elected and appointed leaders, and staff from the two existing agencies have begun a transition process that will place the funding, personnel, programs and services of CCF all within DEL.

This transition effort includes:

- Supporting greater government efficiency
- Aligning overlapping missions
- Sustaining primary prevention services and infrastructure
- Leveraging current and future funding
- Developing and nurturing of strong relationships and transparent communications with stakeholders (including parents as partners)

DEL intends to fully implement this transition plan to maintain the contemporary, high-quality family strengthening and child abuse and neglect prevention services previously offered by the CCF and its strong network of providers and supporters.

## Background

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### What is House Bill 1965?

Governor Gregoire signed HB 1965 into law on June 15, 2011. HB 1965 eliminates the Council for Children & Families (CCF) as a stand-alone agency (along with the Family Policy Council) and requires CCF and the Department of Early Learning (DEL) to develop a plan for transitioning the work of CCF to DEL. The bill requires CCF and DEL to submit a transition plan to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2012. The actual transition will be effective July 1, 2012.

The legislation contained several other provisions regarding the reduction of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the formation of a planning group to inform the development of a public/private partnership focused on ACE reduction. The full text of the bill and summary can be found at: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=1965&year=2011> as well as in Attachment B.

### Transition planning: Efforts to date

Following the passage of HB 1965, CCF, DEL and the Governor's Office led development of a transition plan. Key activities included:

- Regular meetings between the CCF Executive Director and the DEL Assistant Director for Partnerships and Collaboration
- DEL/CCF Leadership meeting
- CCF Stakeholder meeting (convened by DEL, CCF and the Governor's Office)

## Agencies' missions

### **Council for Children & Families:**

To promote the optimal development of children and families by leading Washington State in its efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect before it ever occurs.

### **Department of Early Learning:**

The Department of Early Learning develops, implements and coordinates system oversight to early learning policy and programs that create safe, healthy, nurturing learning experiences for all Washington children.

- Federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) site visit, which included meeting with local Region X reps
- Two CCF board meetings
- DEL, CCF, advocates and policymaker meeting
- DEL/CCF meeting with leadership from the National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds and Prevent Child Abuse America during their annual concurrent meeting
- Designation of DEL as the CBCAP lead agency for Washington

## **Overall transition plan: Key concepts for planning**

### **Transition goal**

To help build capacity in our state to promote optimal child development, health and safety as well as more effectively support healthy parenting practices within DEL.

### **Transition objective**

To align broad-based child maltreatment prevention with early child development by developing a plan to smoothly transition functions of CCF to DEL.

### **Anticipated outcome**

Sharing goals of improved child development and early learning with child maltreatment prevention goals could significantly help Washington families understand the needs of their children, learn about support programs for concrete needs or parenting challenges, and create a positive forum for engaging parents as leaders and partners to educate and provide for the healthy development for their children.

### **Guiding frameworks**

In addition to gathering input from our partners, CCF and DEL used the state Early Learning Plan as a framework for moving CCF duties primarily related to early learning. These include (but aren't limited to):

- Public awareness (access to resources and information)
- Parent leadership (supporting development and expansion)
- Home visiting (making home visiting services available to at-risk families)
- Strengthening Families Washington (an approach used by more than 30 states that focuses on building five protective factors that promote healthy outcomes for children and families)
- Community-based program investment (parent learning opportunities/parent participation/parent support)

### **Mission alignment: Nexus of early learning, prevention and child development**

CCF and DEL share the goal of promoting optimal, healthy child development. CCF focuses on preventing child maltreatment by supporting programs that increase families' strengths, provide concrete resources, improve parenting skills and increase knowledge of child development. CCF also supports a number of innovative and research-based strategies that have shown evidence of improving outcomes to create healthier families and children.

DEL works with partners to create an early learning system that helps ensure safe and nurturing environments for all children through positive early learning programs, services, and supports. In addition to serving in a state leadership role to promote the development of Washington's early learning system, DEL administers key programs and services, including acting as the state lead agency for evidence-based home

visitation. DEL partners closely with Thrive by Five Washington, the lead implementor for Washington's home visiting system.

Prevention efforts that focus on early childhood development can more comprehensively address child needs. Healthy child development requires parenting that provides nurturing and intellectually stimulating environments. The science supporting this connection, the national Scientific Council on the Developing Child, found that "the emotional health of young children—or the absence of it—is closely tied to the social and emotional characteristics of the environments in which they live, which include not only their parents but also the broader context of their families and communities."

This emotional development is built into the architecture of the child's brain. Young children who are exposed to mental health problems, substance abuse or family violence will face significant threats to their emotional development. Meshing CCF and DEL is a natural blending of key elements that all lead toward healthy families and communities.



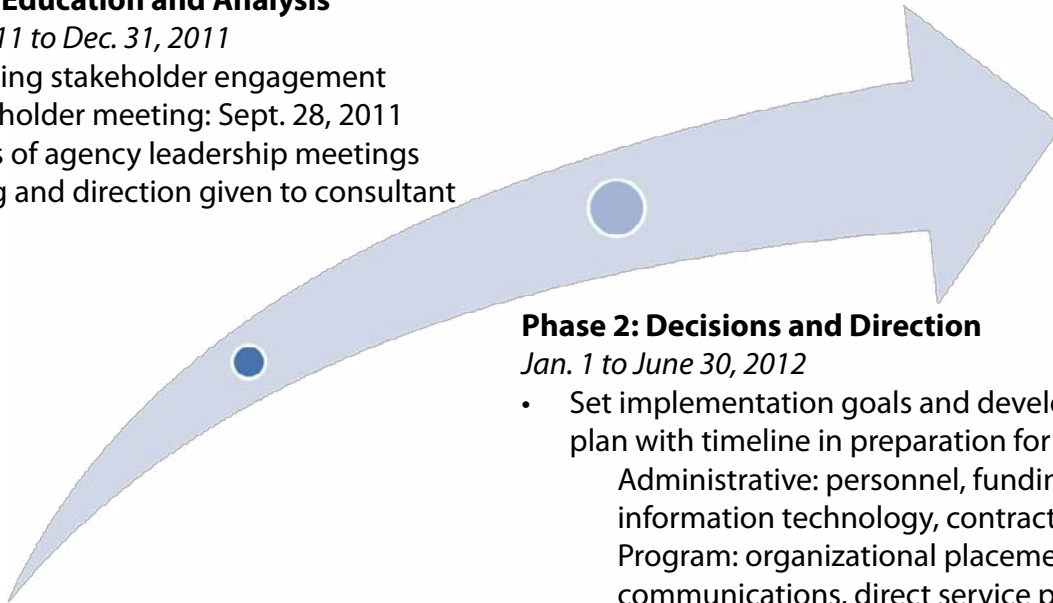
# Transition plan

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## **Phase 1: Education and Analysis**

*July 1, 2011 to Dec. 31, 2011*

- Ongoing stakeholder engagement
- Stakeholder meeting: Sept. 28, 2011
- Series of agency leadership meetings
- Hiring and direction given to consultant



## **Phase 2: Decisions and Direction**

*Jan. 1 to June 30, 2012*

- Set implementation goals and develop detailed work plan with timeline in preparation for FY 2012-13:
  - Administrative: personnel, funding, facilities, information technology, contracts
  - Program: organizational placement, branding, communications, direct service programs, policy development and public awareness campaigns
- Use current CCF member council for shaping future direction.

### **Key dates for Phase 2**

#### ***January 1:***

- CCF-DEL transition plan report due to Legislature
- Formal request to maintain federal leverage during transition submitted to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families Commissioner for determination

#### ***April:***

- CBCAP program instructions released
- Governor's Assurance Statement (paperwork to designate state lead) submitted to the Governor's Office for review

#### ***May:***

- State CBCAP lead designation formalized via the Governor's Office; state lead entity (DEL) to submit application for FFY13 funds
- CCF to submit report on FFY11 funds/Leverage and budget statement due

#### ***June:***

- State CBCAP report and application for FFY13 due

## **Four key ingredients for successful transition**

### **Follow guiding principles**

These guiding principles were developed from multiple sources, including the stakeholder meeting held on September 28, 2011, as well as from the CCF Board in both formal and informal conversations and meetings:

*Value of community voice:* Communities, most notably parents, are the “champions of prevention” and should maintain a bona fide voice in decisions regarding future prevention programs, policies and campaigns related to child abuse and neglect.

*Importance of cross-sector prevention:* DEL should look for all relevant synergy in its current program work to make prevention a strategic and sustainable part of their collective impact.

*Opportunism:* Assess new program and funding opportunities that result from the transition by building on and leveraging strengths from both agencies.

### **Address structural questions**

*Administrative:* Key decisions will be made in the second half of FY 2012 including but not limited to: personnel, funding, facilities, information technology, and current contracts.

*Program:* Key decisions will also be made in the second half of FY 2012 regarding critical variables, including but not limited to: organizational placement, branding, communications, direct service programs, policy development and public awareness campaigns.

*Stakeholder Engagement and Oversight:* Stakeholder engagement will be needed to help determine the best answers to the structural questions noted above. DEL is committed to using the collective expertise of the current CCF Board (current member terms end on June 30, 2012) as the main point of entry with the spectrum of prevention of child maltreatment interest groups.

### **Mesh agency cultures**

Because the nuts and bolts transitional work denoted above will necessarily involve the meshing of cultures DEL leadership must take seriously the need to mesh two program philosophies and styles in one agency. The guiding principles noted above also will help achieve a harmonious transition.

### **Leverage potential and emerging funding opportunities**

Bringing together these two agencies can act as a catalyst to bring all relevant interests together to more effectively tackle the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Both agencies are already integral parts of successful public/private partnerships and meshing the various partners should bring even greater opportunity for collaboration.

For example, two current funding pots require direct planning and initiative: the federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) dollars and the Children’s Trust Fund. The CBCAP grant program is the only federally funded, formula grant program with the sole purpose of preventing child abuse and neglect. The formula grant design recognizes that states can be very effective at creating, coordinating and aligning statewide partnerships, direct services, and community-based initiatives to protect children from child abuse and neglect. Now DEL will be responsible for maximizing opportunities from this funding source.

The Children’s Trust Fund serves as a catalyst for the development of community-based child abuse and neglect prevention programs throughout Washington. The fund is an incubator for innovative and/or existing programs and services related to strengthening families to prevent child abuse and neglect. Typically, state trust and prevention funds receive revenue from a variety of sources such as surcharge fees on marriage licenses or other vital records, individual and corporate fundraising, and state and federal resources. Trust Fund investments in Washington are currently furnished through sales of the state’s



Heirloom Birth Certificate, the Keep Kids Safe special license plate, private donations, and grants. Moving forward, it will also serve as one of the primary sources of leverage funds aligned with federal CBCAP state match requirements. All 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have passed legislation to create a children's trust or prevention fund and are served and supported by the National Alliance of Children's Trust & Prevention Funds.

## **Issues and recommendations**

The transition planning process is focused primarily on organizational matters. However, the following recommendations address matters related to policy, practice and the sustainability of prevention services. The new agency governance structure must support the intended goals and outcomes of this transition plan as well as recommendations that position the state to make the best use of local, state, and federal resources:

### **Recommendation 1: Form an ongoing advisory body**

Forming an advisory body to provide ongoing expertise, specialized knowledge, and citizen input in the prevention of child abuse and neglect could help:

- keep a focus on/advocate for prevention;
- maintain community/citizen/parent voice and influence;
- support and identify fund development opportunities
- ensure accountability for use of the Children's Trust Fund dollars;
- participate in strategic planning for prevention initiatives and activities;
- serve as the group that holds the "bigger vision" and provides a sense of ownership for the work; and
- make recommendations to DEL leadership regarding effective use of funds and strategic opportunities to advance organizational goals and mission.

Such an advisory body needs to fit within DEL's current organizational structure and stakeholder engagement structures, which is currently undergoing refinement. The Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) may provide one opportunity to create this advisory body as a sub-committee of the state advisory council. This could align with the federal-state work of ELAC and provide a structure for ensuring a specific focus on prevention within the larger agency mission. The intent would be to both strengthen the role of prevention as well as ensure that this focus is strategically integrated into the ongoing work of DEL.

### **Recommendation 2: Designate DEL as lead agency for federal CBCAP grant**

HB 1965 was silent on the lead agency for the federal CBCAP funding. Because of the clear mission and vision alignment between CCF and DEL, Gov. Gregoire officially designated DEL as the lead agency for the CBCAP funds.

### **Recommendation 3: Assess accountability needs for the Children's Trust Fund**

CCF's Advisory Council recommended a review of current statutory language ([RCW 43.121.100](#)) to assess if any revisions are needed during the transition to ensure that due diligence regarding maintaining the statutory intent of the Trust Fund. Residents who purchase a special license plate or birth certificate should do so with the understanding that proceeds benefit the optimal development of children by preventing child abuse and neglect.

# Attachment A: CCF alignment with the state Early Learning Plan

## Legislation: Gateway to transition planning & agency alignment

Legislative changes that impact CCF's status as an independent agency (HB1965) also provide an opportunity to look at relevant pieces of the state's Early Learning Plan and to consider which programs and strategies currently undertaken at CCF demonstrate the greatest potential "fit" within the broader mission of DEL. This transition is a key aspect of state policy recommendations regarding efforts to streamline government, maximize state/federal resources, promote optimal child development and increase family success. Find the plan online at [www.del.wa.gov/plan](http://www.del.wa.gov/plan)

## Why focus on the Early Learning Plan?

The Early Learning Plan offers both agencies a common framework from which to begin a conversation regarding potential transition, alignment, funding focus and coordination. While various pieces of the work span across agencies/systems that serve a broad range of children and families, many strategies contained within the plan fall under the purview of the state's early learning agency.

## Crosswalk: CCF current programs & activities and the Early Learning Plan

DEL is in a lead position to carry out many of these activities but may not currently have the internal resources to implement a number of strategies that may be desired in the near future.

In that frame, a review of the Early Learning Plan revealed a number of relevant strategies that either crosswalk with current CCF programs/activities or were the result of CCF content knowledge contribution (via staff and Council members) to the Plan, and offers the opportunity to align both agency transition and mission fit with Early Learning Plan implementation strategy in key outcome areas. Although DEL intends to maintain implementation of key CCF programs and activities, including five critical public awareness campaigns, the following crosswalk provides examples of CCF and DEL key alignment in the Early Learning Plan for consideration in future planning efforts:

## **Access to Information and Resources (Early Learning Plan Strategy #14)**

**Description of this Early Learning Plan strategy:** Build on existing infrastructure to implement a statewide system for offering to parents, families, and caregivers easy-to-access, culturally competent, language-available, relevant and affordable information on a wide range of topics related to early learning, child health and development, nutrition, parenting and family strengthening. Connect them with community-level resources to meet their needs, so as to optimize child and family outcomes.

**How CCF aligns:** Public education and awareness campaigns: shaken baby/abusive head trauma prevention, postpartum depression awareness, child abuse reporting, and infant safe sleep, more general efforts related to advancing public understanding of child abuse and neglect or broad-based campaigns aimed at promoting positive parenting practices.

While CCF offers statewide access to information and resources, some outreach and awareness efforts are linked to multi-state and/or national efforts as a result of our prevention networks or partnerships. Our state chapter status with Prevent Child Abuse America and state membership in the National Alliance of Children's Trust & Prevention Funds offer additional opportunities to tap into a broad support system of unified voices and messages that have the potential to increase impact and collective outreach of our statewide efforts. These typically include April's Child Abuse Prevention Month, the "Speak Up" postpartum depression awareness campaign, and Shaken Baby Awareness Week during the 3rd week of April. In addition to increasing access to resources and information, successful and targeted campaigns can lead to increased public will necessary to support community efforts to strengthen families, mobilize volunteers, attract potential donors for the state Trust Fund and engage the media.

## **Parenting Learning Opportunities (Early Learning Plan Strategy #15)**

**Description of this Early Learning Plan strategy:** Provide culturally competent learning opportunities and peer supports that provide child development and parenting guidance in diverse and parent-friendly venues.

**How CCF aligns:** Community Cafes.

The Community Café Collaborative, a Washington-based parent grassroots group, is dedicated to establishing meaningful conversation and action among parents, caregivers and others invested in the well-being of children and families. The Community Café model is designed to promote the five Strengthening Families protective factors and is established in communities across the state. It is supported in part through CCF's parent leadership efforts, involvement of the Community Café Parent Leadership Team in the Strengthening Families WA initiative and through a formal partnership between CCF, the Foundation for Early Learning and the Children's Trust Foundation to promote expansion and evaluation of this approach in communities across the state. (See "Strong Families" for reference to the CSSP AIM grant and additional connection to the Community Café Leadership Team).

## **Strong Families (Early Learning Plan Strategy #18)**

**Description of this Early Learning Plan strategy:** Fund and support programs, strategies and policies that strengthen families, and foster development of supportive relationships among parents, families, caregivers, early learning professionals and schools.

**How CCF aligns:** This approach is in use through Strengthening Families Washington (SFWA), a collaborative, multi-partner initiative lead by the Council for Children & Families. The Strengthening Families initiative is an approach that increases the availability of and access to family support and other services for families, and bolsters five key protective factors that promote healthy families. These protective factors are: parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete supports in times of need, and children's healthy social and emotional development.

The Strengthening Families approach is used in 36 states and is intended to help early learning professionals facilitate mutual support among parents, strengthen parenting skills, respond to family crises, link families to services they need, facilitate children's social and emotional development, and respond to early warning signs of abuse or neglect. Most importantly, successful adoption of Strengthening Families models by national early care and education and child serving systems has the potential to produce optimal developmental outcomes for millions of children by strengthening and supporting their families.

This breakthrough strategy for dealing with child maltreatment shows great promise because:

- The Protective Factors have been demonstrated to work and are informed by extensive, rigorous research. (literature review)
- Activities that build the Protective Factors can be built into programs and systems that already exist in every state, such as early childhood education and child welfare, at little cost.
- Strengthening Families has widespread support from social science researchers, state child welfare officials, early childhood practitioners, and policy experts.
- Early childhood educators want to strengthen families: a National Association for the Education of Young Children survey shows that 97% want to do more to prevent maltreatment.

A two-year planning and technical assistance initiative (Action, Implementation and Momentum, or AIM) through the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) is providing the state with resources that will allow for more rigorous documentation of implementation within place-based/community capacity building processes and outcomes for this approach and is intended to contribute to evidence based research

demonstrating the positive impact of infusing family strengthening prevention strategies (protective factors) in early childhood systems and geographic regions within the state. This work is being done in partnership with the Strengthening Families Washington initiative, statewide Community Café Leadership Team, and Spokane community partners.

The Washington initiative is place-based, focusing on the community of Spokane. The purpose is to identify what it means to be a community with a common priority of strengthening families, to establish metrics and tools to track progress towards key indicators, and to measure community impact and sustainability.

### **Mental Health Screening & Services for New Parents (Early Learning Plan Strategy #19)**

**Description of this Early Learning Plan strategy:** Increase the number of new parents who are screened for postpartum mood disorders, and improve access and increase referral pathways between primary care and allied mental health services for mothers, fathers and their families experiencing postpartum mood disorders.

**How CCF aligns:** CCF is the state lead for the “Speak Up When You’re Down” postpartum depression awareness campaign. The campaign seeks to reduce social stigma and barriers that prevent mothers and fathers from seeking treatment, and to educate about available resources. The campaign includes a web site, toll-free referral line, and distribution of materials in English and Spanish through WithinReach and CHILD Profile. The campaign reaches more than 90,000 Washington families each year, and operates to continuously and consistently reach new families each year.

### **Parent Leadership (Early Learning Plan Strategy #20)**

**Description of this Early Learning Plan strategy:** Use proven and promising models to identify and nurture parent and caregiver leaders to advocate for families. This strategy aims to gain the meaningful engagement of parents, families and caregivers with all child- and family-serving organizations in the state to ensure that the organizations’ activities promote child and family well-being.

**How CCF aligns:** The National Alliance of Children’s Trust & Prevention Funds’ Early Childhood Initiative (ECI) strives to increase implementation of effective child abuse prevention/family strengthening models and strategies by deeply embedding the Strengthening Families Protective Factors framework throughout all systems that touch the lives of young children and their families. The ECI and Strengthening Families framework provide access to data, supports and promising practices that help to identify and nurture parent leadership in our state.

The Alliance and several Children’s Trust Funds (CTFs) are taking leadership roles in partnership with state and national early childhood leaders, parent leaders, child welfare agencies, policymakers, and other funders to implement the Early Childhood Initiative, and the Strengthening Families framework. Through the Alliance’s Early Childhood Initiative, Washington state participates in training on the Strengthening Families framework and principles.

Because of our role as the state CTF and strong community partnerships, Washington successfully obtained four of 11 grants available nationally through the Alliance to implement ECI projects with the following partners: Community Café Leadership Team (expansion and evaluation of parent leadership/advocacy model), Department of Early Learning (QRIS – using SF framework to revise Seeds to Success Family & Community Partnerships component), Child Care Resource & Referral Network (linking FFN, Play and Learn with Community Cafes), United Ways of WA (using the protective factor framework to guide community grant-making decisions).

## **Parent Participation (Early Learning Plan Strategy #21)**

**Description of this Early Learning Plan strategy:** Create formalized pathways for diverse parents, family members and caregivers to participate in early learning program and system design, and in shaping early learning policy. Engaging parents, families and caregivers in early learning programs and policy development creates a partnership among the adults who care for and about young children.

### **How CCF aligns:**

#### *Strengthening Families Washington*

CCF leads the Strengthening Families Washington initiative (see Strategy #18 in this document for further information). The Early Learning Plan references the SFWA initiative and its partner organizations as key players in parent participation efforts. National affiliation also provides technical assistance, training and peer-to-peer networking to enhance efforts at the state and local level. The annual Strengthening Families Summit brings together state teams (parents and professionals), early care and education professionals, and early childhood experts from around the country to share information about Strengthening Families and propel the movement forward across the nation.

#### *Parent Partnerships through Program Investment*

CCF has focused on the family throughout its work and emphasized the importance of parents, parenting and parent leadership. The parent is not only a provider and teacher for their child, but is also a leader in their family and someone with potential to lead change in their communities and in society. CCF believes this potential creates stronger families by engaging the parent in the world that surrounds their child, and creates stronger communities as parents make decisions at all levels on the issues that impact not only their family but the families around them. CCF values parents not just as recipients of a service, but also as full partners capable of shaping communities and society as a whole.

CCF grant applicants are required to explain how parents will be engaged and participate on a decision making level. Funded programs report at year-end and in proposals for continuation funding regarding how parents have been involved in the ongoing planning, implementation and evaluation of the program. Reports show that parents are engaged in activities such as advisory and governing boards, as parent mentors, offering parent training events, and providing input to program content and strategies through surveys and/or group discussion.

## **Build Statewide Infrastructure for Partnerships and Mobilization (Early Learning Plan Strategy #34)**

**Description of this Early Learning Plan strategy:** Build state-level infrastructure to strengthen partnerships, build capacity, broaden reach, and focus local early learning mobilization efforts. Funded by the federal State Advisory Council (SAC) grant, work is currently underway to develop a state-local coordination structure in Washington to strengthen the existing role of the DEL Early Learning Advisory Council, early learning coalitions and DEL Infant/Toddler Regions in coordinating their work to implement strategies in the early learning plan.

**How CCF aligns:** Transitioning CCF to DEL will help develop a more coordinated effort at the state level to support the needs of diverse communities, and create a consistent way for communities to stay linked to one another and to state-level efforts. This strategy is also supported by the Strengthening Families Washington (SFWA) statewide initiative, which brings together multiple partners for a common purpose (see Strategy #18 for explanation of SFWA). Ultimately, housing CCF work within DEL will help to build capacity for our statewide early childhood system (see CCF-DEL transition goals, outcomes, anticipated objectives statement for linkage back to this strategy) at the state and local levels.

## Attachment B: House Bill 1965

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### CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

#### ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1965

Chapter 32, Laws of 2011

62nd Legislature  
2011 1st Special Session

#### ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/24/11 - Except section 5, which becomes effective 07/01/12.

Passed by the House May 23, 2011  
Yeas 74 Nays 21

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate May 22, 2011  
Yeas 34 Nays 13

BRAD OWEN

**President of the Senate**

Approved June 15, 2011, 2:52 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

#### CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1965** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

June 15, 2011

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**



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**ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1965**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2011 1st Special Session

**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2011 1st Special Session**

**By** House Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Jinkins, Frockt, and Kenney)

READ FIRST TIME 04/01/11.

1       AN ACT Relating to public and private partnership in addressing  
2       adverse childhood experiences; amending RCW 13.40.462, 43.121.100,  
3       43.215.146, 43.215.147, 43.70.555, 74.14A.060, and 70.190.040; adding  
4       a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 70  
5       RCW; creating a new section; recodifying RCW 70.190.040; repealing RCW  
6       43.121.010, 43.121.015, 43.121.020, 43.121.030, 43.121.040, 43.121.050,  
7       43.121.060, 43.121.070, 43.121.080, 43.121.110, 43.121.120, 43.121.130,  
8       43.121.140, 43.121.150, 43.121.160, 43.121.185, 43.121.910, 70.190.005,  
9       70.190.010, 70.190.020, 70.190.100, 70.190.110, 70.190.120, 70.190.130,  
10      70.190.150, 70.190.920, and 74.14C.050; and providing effective dates.

11      BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

12       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that adverse childhood  
13       experiences are a powerful common determinant of a child's ability to  
14       be successful at school and, as an adult, to be successful at work, to  
15       avoid behavioral and chronic physical health conditions, and to build  
16       healthy relationships. The purpose of this chapter is to identify the  
17       primary causes of adverse childhood experiences in communities and to  
18       mobilize broad public and private support to prevent harm to young  
19       children and reduce the accumulated harm of adverse experiences

1 throughout childhood. A focused effort is needed to: (1) Identify and  
2 promote the use of innovative strategies based on evidence-based and  
3 research-based approaches and practices; and (2) align public and  
4 private policies and funding with approaches and strategies which have  
5 demonstrated effectiveness.

6 The legislature recognizes that many community public health and  
7 safety networks across the state have knowledge and expertise regarding  
8 the reduction of adverse childhood experiences and can provide  
9 leadership on this initiative in their communities. In addition, a  
10 broad range of community coalitions involved with early learning, child  
11 abuse prevention, and community mobilization have coalesced in many  
12 communities. The adverse childhood experiences initiative should  
13 coordinate and assemble the strongest components of these networks and  
14 coalitions to effectively respond to the challenge of reducing and  
15 preventing adverse childhood experiences while providing flexibility  
16 for communities to design responses that are appropriate for their  
17 community.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply  
19 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

20 (1) "Adverse childhood experiences" means the following indicators  
21 of severe childhood stressors and family dysfunction that, when  
22 experienced in the first eighteen years of life and taken together, are  
23 proven by public health research to be powerful determinants of  
24 physical, mental, social, and behavioral health across the lifespan:  
25 Child physical abuse; child sexual abuse; child emotional abuse; child  
26 emotional or physical neglect; alcohol or other substance abuse in the  
27 home; mental illness, depression, or suicidal behaviors in the home;  
28 incarceration of a family member; witnessing intimate partner violence;  
29 and parental divorce or separation. Adverse childhood experiences have  
30 been demonstrated to affect the development of the brain and other  
31 major body systems.

32 (2) "Community public health and safety networks" or "networks"  
33 means the organizations authorized under RCW 70.190.060.

34 (3) "Department" means the department of social and health  
35 services.

36 (4) "Director" means the director of the department of early  
37 learning.



- (5) "Evidence-based" has the same meaning as in RCW 43.215.146.
- (6) "Research-based" has the same meaning as in RCW 43.215.146.
- (7) "Secretary" means the secretary of social and health services.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1)(a) The secretary of the department of social and health services and the director of the department of early learning shall actively participate in the development of a nongovernmental private-public initiative focused on coordinating government and philanthropic organizations' investments in the positive development of children and preventing and mitigating the effects of adverse childhood experiences. The secretary and director shall convene a planning group to work with interested private partners to:

(i) Develop a process by which the goals identified in section 1 of this act shall be met; and (ii) develop recommendations for inclusive and diverse governance to advance the adverse childhood experiences initiative.

(b) The secretary and director shall select no more than twelve to fifteen persons as members of the planning group. The members selected must represent a diversity of interests including: Early learning coalitions, community public health and safety networks, organizations that work to prevent and address child abuse and neglect, tribes, representatives of public agency agencies involved with interventions in or prevention of adverse childhood experiences, philanthropic organizations, and organizations focused on community mobilization.

(c) The secretary and director shall cochair the planning group meetings and shall convene the first meeting.

(2) The planning group shall submit a report on its progress and recommendations to the appropriate legislative committees no later than December 15, 2011.

(3) In addition to other powers granted to the secretary, the secretary may:

(a) Enter into contracts on behalf of the department to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

(b) Provide funding to communities or any governance entity that is created as a result of the partnership; and

(c) Accept gifts, grants, or other funds for the purposes of this chapter.

1       **Sec. 4.** RCW 13.40.462 and 2006 c 304 s 2 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       (1) The department of social and health services juvenile  
4 rehabilitation administration shall establish a reinvesting in youth  
5 program that awards grants to counties for implementing research-based  
6 early intervention services that target juvenile justice-involved youth  
7 and reduce crime, subject to the availability of amounts appropriated  
8 for this specific purpose.

9       (2) Effective July 1, 2007, any county or group of counties may  
10 apply for participation in the reinvesting in youth program.

11       (3) Counties that participate in the reinvesting in youth program  
12 shall have a portion of their costs of serving youth through the  
13 research-based intervention service models paid for with moneys from  
14 the reinvesting in youth account established pursuant to RCW 13.40.466.

15       (4) The department of social and health services juvenile  
16 rehabilitation administration shall review county applications for  
17 funding through the reinvesting in youth program and shall select the  
18 counties that will be awarded grants with funds appropriated to  
19 implement this program. The department, in consultation with the  
20 Washington state institute for public policy, shall develop guidelines  
21 to determine which counties will be awarded funding in accordance with  
22 the reinvesting in youth program. At a minimum, counties must meet the  
23 following criteria in order to participate in the reinvesting in youth  
24 program:

25       (a) Counties must match state moneys awarded for research-based  
26 early intervention services with nonstate resources that are at least  
27 proportional to the expected local government share of state and local  
28 government cost avoidance that would result from the implementation of  
29 such services;

30       (b) Counties must demonstrate that state funds allocated pursuant  
31 to this section are used only for the intervention service models  
32 authorized pursuant to RCW 13.40.464;

33       (c) Counties must participate fully in the state quality assurance  
34 program established in RCW 13.40.468 to ensure fidelity of program  
35 implementation. If no state quality assurance program is in effect for  
36 a particular selected research-based service, the county must submit a  
37 quality assurance plan for state approval with its grant application.

1 Failure to demonstrate continuing compliance with quality assurance  
2 plans shall be grounds for termination of state funding; and

3 (d) Counties that submit joint applications must submit for  
4 approval by the department of social and health services juvenile  
5 rehabilitation administration multicounty plans for efficient program  
6 delivery.

7 ~~((5) - The department of social and health services juvenile  
8 rehabilitation administration shall convene a technical advisory  
9 committee comprised of representatives from the house of  
10 representatives, the senate, the governor's office of financial  
11 management, the department of social and health services juvenile  
12 rehabilitation administration, the family policy council, the juvenile  
13 court administrator's association, and the Washington association of  
14 counties to assist in the implementation of chapter 304, Laws of  
15 2006.))~~

16 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.121.100 and 2011 c 171 s 9 are each amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 ~~((The council may accept))~~ Contributions, grants, or gifts in cash  
19 or otherwise, including funds generated by the sale of "heirloom" birth  
20 certificates under chapter 70.58 RCW from persons, associations, or  
21 corporations and funds generated through the issuance of the "Keep Kids  
22 Safe" license plate under chapter 46.18 RCW ~~((All moneys received by  
23 the council or any employee thereof from contributions, grants, or  
24 gifts and not through appropriation by the legislature))~~, shall be  
25 deposited in a depository approved by the state treasurer to be known  
26 as the children's trust fund. Disbursements of such funds shall be on  
27 the authorization of the ~~((council or a duly authorized representative  
28 thereof and only for the purposes stated in RCW 43.121.050))~~ director  
29 of the department of early learning beginning July 1, 2012. In order  
30 to maintain an effective expenditure and revenue control, such funds  
31 shall be subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no  
32 appropriation shall be required to permit expenditure of such funds.

33 **Sec. 6.** RCW 43.215.146 and 2007 c 466 s 2 are each amended to read  
34 as follows:

35 The definitions in this section apply throughout this section and

1 RCW ((~~43.121.170 through~~)) 43.215.145, 43.215.147, and 43.121.185  
2 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

3 (1) "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that has had  
4 multiple site random controlled trials across heterogeneous populations  
5 demonstrating that the program or practice is effective for the  
6 population.

7 (2) "Home visitation" means providing services in the permanent or  
8 temporary residence, or in other familiar surroundings, of the family  
9 receiving such services.

10 (3) "Research-based" means a program or practice that has some  
11 research demonstrating effectiveness, but that does not yet meet the  
12 standard of evidence-based practices.

13 **Sec. 7.** RCW 43.215.147 and 2008 c 152 s 6 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 (1) Within available funds, the ((~~council for children and~~  
16 ~~families~~)) department shall fund evidence-based and research-based home  
17 visitation programs for improving parenting skills and outcomes for  
18 children. Home visitation programs must be voluntary and must address  
19 the needs of families to alleviate the effect on child development of  
20 factors such as poverty, single parenthood, parental unemployment or  
21 underemployment, parental disability, or parental lack of high school  
22 diploma, which research shows are risk factors for child abuse and  
23 neglect and poor educational outcomes. In order to maximize  
24 opportunities to obtain matching funds from private entities, general  
25 funds intended to support home visiting funding shall be appropriated  
26 to the home visiting services account established in RCW 43.215.130.

27 (2) The ((~~council for children and families shall develop a plan~~))  
28 department shall work with the department of social and health  
29 services, the department of health((~~, the department of early learning,~~  
30 ~~and the family policy council~~)), the private-public partnership created  
31 in RCW 43.215.070, and key partners and stakeholders to develop a plan  
32 to coordinate or consolidate home visitation services for children and  
33 families ((and report to the appropriate committees of the legislature  
34 by December 1, 2007, with their recommendations for implementation of  
35 the plan)) to the extent practicable.

1       **Sec. 8.** RCW 43.70.555 and 1998 c 245 s 77 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       The department(~~(, in consultation with the family policy council~~  
4 ~~created in chapter 70.190 RCW,))~~ shall establish, by rule, standards  
5 for local health departments and networks to use in assessment,  
6 performance measurement, policy development, and assurance regarding  
7 social development to prevent health problems caused by risk factors  
8 empirically linked to: Violent criminal acts by juveniles, teen  
9 substance abuse, teen pregnancy and male parentage, teen suicide  
10 attempts, dropping out of school, child abuse or neglect, and domestic  
11 violence. The standards shall be based on the standards set forth in  
12 the public health services improvement plan as required by RCW  
13 43.70.550.

14       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** (1) Beginning July 1, 2011, the council for  
15 children and families and the department of early learning shall  
16 develop a plan for transitioning the work of the council for children  
17 and families, including public awareness campaigns, to the department  
18 of early learning. The council for children and families and the  
19 department of early learning shall participate in the development of  
20 the private-public initiative in order to streamline efforts around the  
21 prevention of child abuse and neglect and avoid duplication of effort.

22       (2) The executive director of the council for children and families  
23 and the director of the department of early learning shall consult with  
24 the planning group convened in section 3 of this act to develop  
25 strategies to maximize Washington's leverage and match of federal child  
26 abuse and neglect prevention moneys.

27       (3) No later than January 1, 2012, the council for children and  
28 families and the department of early learning shall report to the  
29 appropriate committees of the legislature on its transition plan.

30       **Sec. 10.** RCW 74.14A.060 and 2000 c 219 s 2 are each amended to  
31 read as follows:

32       Within available funds, the secretary of the department of social  
33 and health services shall (~~charge appropriated funds to~~) support  
34 blended funding projects for youth (~~subject to any current or future~~  
35 ~~waiver the department receives to the requirements of IV-E funding~~).  
36 To be eligible for blended funding a child must be eligible for

1 services designed to address a behavioral, mental, emotional, or  
2 substance abuse issue from the department of social and health services  
3 and require services from more than one categorical service delivery  
4 system. Before any blended funding project is established by the  
5 secretary, any entity or person proposing the project shall seek input  
6 from the public health and safety network or networks established in  
7 the catchment area of the project. The network or networks shall  
8 submit recommendations on the blended funding project to the ((family  
9 policy council)) private-public initiative described in section 3 of  
10 this act. The ((family-policy-council)) private-public initiative  
11 shall advise the secretary whether to approve the proposed blended  
12 funding project. The network shall review the proposed blended funding  
13 project pursuant to its authority to examine the decategorization of  
14 program funds under RCW 70.190.110, within the current appropriation  
15 level. The department shall document the number of children who  
16 participate in blended funding projects, the total blended funding  
17 amounts per child, the amount charged to each appropriation by program,  
18 and services provided to each child through each blended funding  
19 project and report this information to the appropriate committees of  
20 the legislature by December 1st of each year, beginning in December 1,  
21 2000.

22 **Sec. 11.** RCW 70.190.040 and 1993 c 336 s 901 are each amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 (1) The legislature finds that helping children to arrive at school  
25 ready to learn is an important part of improving student learning.

26 (2) To the extent funds are appropriated, the ((family-policy  
27 council)) superintendent of public instruction shall award grants to  
28 community-based consortiums that submit comprehensive plans that  
29 include strategies to improve readiness to learn.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The following acts or parts of acts, as now  
31 existing or hereafter amended, are each repealed, effective June 30,  
32 2012:

33 (1) RCW 43.121.010 (Legislative declaration, intent) and 1982 c 4  
34 s 1;

35 (2) RCW 43.121.015 (Definitions) and 2008 c 152 s 8, 1988 c 278 s  
36 4, & 1987 c 351 s 2;

1 (3) RCW 43.121.020 (Council established--Members, chairperson--  
2 Appointment, qualifications, terms, vacancies) and 2008 c 152 s 7, 2007  
3 c 144 s 1, 1996 c 10 s 1, 1994 c 48 s 1, 1989 c 304 s 4, 1987 c 351 s  
4 3, 1984 c 261 s 1, & 1982 c 4 s 2;

5 (4) RCW 43.121.030 (Compensation and travel expenses of members)  
6 and 1984 c 287 s 87 & 1982 c 4 s 3;

7 (5) RCW 43.121.040 (Executive director, salary--Staff) and 1982 c  
8 4 s 4;

9 (6) RCW 43.121.050 (Council powers and duties--Generally--Rules)  
10 and 1988 c 278 s 5, 1987 c 351 s 4, & 1982 c 4 s 5;

11 (7) RCW 43.121.060 (Contracts for services--Scope of programs--  
12 Funding) and 1982 c 4 s 6;

13 (8) RCW 43.121.070 (Contracts for services--Factors in awarding)  
14 and 1982 c 4 s 7;

15 (9) RCW 43.121.080 (Contracts for services--Partial funding by  
16 administering organization, what constitutes) and 1982 c 4 s 8;

17 (10) RCW 43.121.110 (Parenting skills--Legislative findings) and  
18 1988 c 278 s 1;

19 (11) RCW 43.121.120 (Community-based early parenting skills  
20 programs--Funding) and 1988 c 278 s 2;

21 (12) RCW 43.121.130 (Decreased state funding of parenting skills  
22 programs--Evaluation) and 1998 c 245 s 48 & 1988 c 278 s 3;

23 (13) RCW 43.121.140 (Shaken baby syndrome--Outreach campaign) and  
24 1993 c 107 s 2;

25 (14) RCW 43.121.150 (Juvenile crime--Legislative findings) and 1997  
26 c 338 s 56;

27 (15) RCW 43.121.160 (Postpartum depression--Public information and  
28 communication outreach campaign) and 2005 c 347 s 2;

29 (16) RCW 43.121.185 (Children's trust of Washington renamed) and  
30 2008 c 152 s 5 & 2007 c 466 s 4; and

31 (17) RCW 43.121.910 (Severability--1982 c 4) and 1982 c 4 s 15.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** The following acts or parts of acts, as now  
33 existing or hereafter amended, are each repealed, effective June 30,  
34 2012:

35 (1) RCW 70.190.005 (Purpose) and 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 301 & 1992 c 198  
36 s 1;

1 (2) RCW 70.190.010 (Definitions) and 2009 c 565 s 52, 2009 c 479 s  
2 58, 1996 c 132 s 2, 1995 c 399 s 200, & 1992 c 198 s 3;  
3 (3) RCW 70.190.020 (Consolidate efforts of existing entities) and  
4 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 315 & 1992 c 198 s 4;  
5 (4) RCW 70.190.100 (Duties of council) and 2009 c 479 s 59, 1998 c  
6 245 s 123, & 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 307;  
7 (5) RCW 70.190.110 (Program review) and 1998 c 245 s 124 & 1994  
8 sp.s. c 7 s 308;  
9 (6) RCW 70.190.120 (Interagency agreement) and 1994 sp.s. c 7 s  
10 309;  
11 (7) RCW 70.190.130 (Comprehensive plan--Approval process--Network  
12 expenditures--Penalty for noncompliance with chapter) and 1998 c 314 s  
13 13, 1996 c 132 s 8, & 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 310;  
14 (8) RCW 70.190.150 (Federal restrictions on funds transfers,  
15 waivers) and 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 312; and  
16 (9) RCW 70.190.920 (Effective date--1992 c 198) and 1992 c 198 s  
17 21.

18 NEW \_\_ SECTION. **Sec. 14.** RCW 74.14C.050 (Implementation and  
19 evaluation plan) and 1995 c 311 s 9 & 1992 c 214 s 6 are each repealed.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** RCW 70.190.040 is recodified as a section  
21 in chapter 28A.300 RCW.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act constitute  
23 a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** Section 5 of this act takes effect July 1,  
25 2012.

Passed by the House May 23, 2011.

Passed by the Senate May 22, 2011.

Approved by the Governor June 15, 2011.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State June 15, 2011.